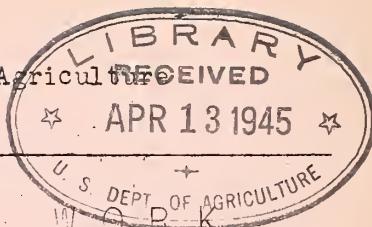


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Extension Service - United States Department of Agriculture



WARTIME EXTENSION WORK

SUMMARY OF EXTENSION WORK, TECHNIQUES, AND RESULTS BASED ON STATE REPORTS

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This week's summary gives reports on harvest labor and tells of successful efforts of farm women, 4-H Club members, mountain farmers, and negroes in producing more food to help in fighting the war.

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KENTUCKY

October 15, 1943

Farm labor.-To help harvest potatoes, 1,022 men, women, and older boys and girls were taken from eastern Kentucky to Maine. Extension assistant State labor supervisor accompanied one trainload to study working and living conditions, and wages. He reported Kentucky men making up to \$14 a day picking up potatoes. Main Labor Department supervised living and working conditions. Transfer of Kentucky labor to Maine appeared to be highly satisfactory to both potato growers and workers. It was expected some individual men would return with at least \$300, and some families with \$700 to \$800.

In Christian County, Ky., 380 war prisoners helped with tobacco harvest.

Farm building plans.-In the first half of year, 1,240 requests for building plans were received at college of agriculture, indicating farmers are looking ahead to time when they can have new houses and farm buildings. Small charge is made for plans, to eliminate requests from persons not seriously interested. Many Kentucky farmers are earmarking war bonds to pay for new buildings and equipment after the war.

4-H Clubs.-Kentucky 4-H Club boy-a-bomber war bond campaign received boost at club auction in Pike County, when calf sold \$50,000 in bonds, and purebred pigs added \$5,200. Watermelon in Hart County sold \$3,630.20 in bonds and stamps. Harriett Jarboe, Boone County 4-H girl, mowed lawns and picked and sold vegetables and fruit to buy \$25 bond. In same county 20 4-H boys and girls worked on farms to get money to invest in bonds. In 17 4-H Clubs in Perry County, deep in the mountains, boys and girls invested \$2,589 in war bonds and stamps.

Kentucky Bankers Association divided \$500 in war stamps among farm boys and girls attending 12 district 4-H Club achievement conferences in October. About 1,200 county champions attended.

Members of 4-H Clubs in 38 counties fed around 1,600 calves for 22d annual fat-cattle show in Louisville. Number included 91 calves fed by older boys and girls enrolled in Utopia clubs. Cash prizes totaling \$3,831 are to be divided among winners. Also several trips to National 4-H Club Congress will be awarded owners of champion calves.

In Laurel County, American Legion distributed seeds for fall gardens to about 700 members of 4-H Clubs. Assortment consisted of kale, turnip, mustard, and crimson-clover seed. Each packet was sufficient to sow plot 20 by 40 feet.

At Logan County 4-H Club rally, natural-color linenlike suit made from feed sacks, worn with brown-and-white striped seersucker blouse and brown accessories, won first prize for Polly Stovall. Suit and blouse, smartly tailored and well made, cost only \$1.20.

Women's food production.—Typical work of Kentucky women to produce more food for war is reported from Hickman County. Mrs. J. L. Moore worked approximately 5 months of year in gardening, dairying, caring for pigs and chickens, and in truck patches. Mrs. Helen L. Leonard spends a fourth of her time in gardening, dairying, and caring for poultry flock. In Clinton community, Mrs. Walter Jewell and her two children have done all the work connected with chickens, dairy, gardening, truck crops, and fruit. Half of Mrs. Jewell's time is so spent. Mrs. Carl Phillips does outdoor work 10 months of year—general farm work, gardening, working with fruit, and caring for poultry. Mrs. Kathryn Halterman worked 10 hours a day, 6 days a week, during summer months, doing similar tasks.

Livestock production.—Farmers in Harlan County, where mountains are highest, this season raised eight times as many hogs as last year. They also are increasing beef-cattle production. Mountainsides were fenced and cleared of brush so grass can be had for stock.

Cooperative marketing.—Fifteen carloads of tomatoes, totaling 10,000 lugs, were sold by Graves County Farm Bureau Cooperative Marketing Association.

Negro war work.—Some examples of how Kentucky negroes are aiding in war effort: Clyde and Claud Taylor, twin brothers who have been club members for 6 years in Jessamine County, grew an acre of burley tobacco and have herd of 15 calves. Their sister, Marie, canned 250 quarts of vegetables. Roland Blain of Clark County raised 75 chickens and had 1-acre garden. Scobie Green of same county raised purebred Poland-China gilt weighing 250 pounds and assisted with 1/2-acre garden and 220 chickens. In Fayette County Bertie Sleet raised sow and 5 pigs and 100 chickens and canned 50 quarts of vegetables from home garden.

MONTANA
October 1, 1943

Harvest and labor.—During September, grain harvest in nearly all sections of State, including large part of grain under irrigation, was completed. Dry-land yields averaged somewhat higher than normal; irrigated grain at least normal. Relatively small damage has been suffered from hail or insects.

Flax harvest has started, with normal yields and no loss from weather or insects.

Pea harvest, both seed and canning, has been completed. Yields were normal in spite of increased acreage.

Alfalfa seed harvest is now under way. Some damage to crop was caused by rather late spring season and early fall frost. This resulted in some poorly colored seed, which may still have good germination.

Result of greatly increased bean acreage is difficult to determine now, particularly dry-land portion. In some areas yield has been fair. In others, because of weed growth, new growers, and lack of proper equipment, part of acreage may not be harvested. Beans in irrigated areas generally are being harvested with good to excellent yield. Cutting is completed, threshing well along, and probably 10 to 15 percent of crop being stacked.

Potato harvest shows reduced yield due to large percentage of new and inexperienced potato growers, late planting season, and difficulty of getting best kind of seed. Until beet harvest started, September 27, labor supply was ample for potatoes because of use of beet labor. Local supplies of labor are expected to complete potato, truck, and orchard-crop harvests.

Based on information from five sugar-beet growing areas in State, orders were submitted for recruiting of 2,045 beet tasters. Of this number, 572 Mexican nationals have been received and 412 more are assured. Since 2,045 workers are absolutely necessary, requests have been submitted for additional 975 domestic workers, to include any available, such as Japanese, conscientious objectors, Indians, negroes, or southern white workers. Activity is now under way toward recruiting of dry-land farmers for work in beet-growing areas.

Production capacity and goals.—Irrigation specialist assigned to home-made labor-saving devices and machine repair work went into field and obtained photographs of a number of effective articles of home-made equipment and made drawings of several needed in immediate future. Mimeographed leaflet was prepared on converting corn cultivator into bean puller, an implement now badly needed in bean territory.

Extension conservationist contributed technical knowledge to AAA committee in establishing conservation practices; also helped War Board subcommittee in establishing food-production goals for 1944 for various counties of State.

